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DRAWING NET CLOSER ABOUT VILLA, SAYS MEXICAN REPORT

GENERAL CALLES CLAIMS TO HAVE RECEIVED TELEGRAM TODAY SAYING THAT VILLA CANNOT ESCAPE.

Villa Surrounded by American and Carranza Troops Near Namiquipa—American Army Officers on Border are Without Any Official Confirmation of Report that Villa Has Been Surrounded—Funston Has Received Request for More Signal Corps Men Along Line of Communication but Claims to Have No Report on Operation South of Casas Grandes, and No Information of Reports Title Between Villistas and Combined American and Mexican Forces—American Consul at Chihuahua Reports to State Department that Reported Revolt of Herrera and Carranza Troops is Untrue—Reports to Bell and Funston, However, and to Confirm Reported Flop of Herrera to Villa.

Douglas, Ariz., March 24.—General Calles received a telegram today from the governor of Chihuahua saying that the Carranza troops are closing in on Villa near Namiquipa and that with American aid Villa could not escape.

No Official Confirmation.
El Paso, Tex., March 24.—The only report that the Americans have surrounded Villa and that a battle is imminent, was received by Consul Garcia here today. Official confirmation, however, is lacking.

More Men Needed.
San Antonio, Tex., March 24.—General Funston today received a request for additional signal corps men along the line of communication into Mexico, but says he has no report on the operations south of Casas Grandes.
General Funston professed to have no information on the reported decisive fight at El Paso, five miles south of Namiquipa, between Villistas and the combined American and Mexican soldiers.

In the absence of positive information regarding the pursuit of Villa, the main interest along the border today centered on the international crisis in Mexico. It is said here that while Herrera may not have deserted Carranza, he was friendly to Villa, and might take a stand of his own in being aggressive against the United States soldiers. Herrera is known here as a bitter Anti-American.

Riots in Tampico District.
Washington, March 24.—The problem under discussion today was the setting of any request that Funston may make in the event of a rebellion of the Carranza troops. If the American forces are seriously attacked, it is regarded as likely that all available troops from the border will be rushed to the advanced columns and those troops replaced quickly in order to save the border guarded.
Direct word from the Tampico district, where rioting has been reported, is awaited anxiously today from the battleship Kentucky, which on its way to Mexican waters, and the gunboat Machias, off Tampico. Their commanders have been instructed to report promptly.

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WEATHER FORECAST

New Orleans, La., March 24.—The weather forecast for Oklahoma for tonight and Saturday is unsettled and cooler, with probably frost tonight in the western portion.

Local Temperature.
Maximum yesterday..... 64
Minimum last night..... 48
Maximum same date year ago..... 66
Minimum same date year ago..... 34
(And it also snowed)

Read the want ads.

BILL MURRAY SAYS HE IS A CANDIDATE

OUR CONGRESSMAN IS ANXIOUS TO BE DELEGATE TO THE NATIONAL CONVENTION. SENDS OUT LETTER SAYING SO.

Oklahoma City, March 23.—William H. Murray, congressman from the Fourth Oklahoma district, has announced that he will be a candidate for a place in the Oklahoma delegation to the democratic national convention at St. Louis in June.

Copies of mimeographed letters sent out of Washington by Mr. Murray to his constituents, announcing his candidacy and also mentioning the fact that he will discuss "preparedness" before the democratic state convention on April 11, were received in some of the state departments Thursday.

So far as known, Mr. Murray is the only member of the Oklahoma delegation in congress to publicly announce his candidacy for a national delegateship.

"I will appear before the state convention and discuss preparedness, which is so much misunderstood by the general public, not only as to facts but the administration's real purpose. Unless the question is made clear to the people of Oklahoma, it is going to lessen our party vote this fall," says Mr. Murray in his letter.

In a postscript at the bottom he announces his candidacy for a place in the delegation.

"I want you to assist me in this by seeing that your precinct and county instruct their delegates for me. I am obliged to pursue this course in view of the fact that I never could rely on the word of the regular politicians," reads the letter.

W. L. Blessing, member of the state industrial commission and an appointee of Governor R. L. Williams, was one of those who received a copy of the letter.

HUGO DOCTOR SHOT, BROTHER IS WOUNDED

FAMILY TROUBLES CAUSE OF A SERIOUS SHOOTING AFFRAY NEAR HUGO LAST NIGHT—DR. LYNCH SURRENDERS.

Hugo, Okla., March 24.—Dr. E. R. Majors is dead, and his brother, Walter, was badly wounded in a shooting affray with Dr. C. S. Lynch of Boswell, near here last night.

Family troubles are said to have caused the trouble. Dr. Lynch has surrendered.

POSSES SEARCH FOR HADLEYS

PAUL HADLEY AND BRIDE SHOT AND KILLED SHERIFF GILES OF BEAUMONT TODAY.

GOT OFF THE TRAIN

Texas Officer Was Taking Hadley and His Bride to Beaumont to Answer Charges of Assault to Murder and Theft When He Was Shot.

Muskogee, Okla., March 24.—Posses are still searching for Paul Hadley and his bride, who killed Sheriff Lake Giles of Beaumont, Texas, on a southbound train near here early this morning.

The sheriff was taking the man and his wife to Beaumont on charges of assault to murder and theft. The officer died within three minutes after being shot by Hadley, who forced him being shot by Hadley, who escaped his custody and forced the conductor to stop the train while he and his wife got off and escaped.

It was reported that the couple headed for Muskogee after leaving the train. The shooting of the officer occurred about 1:30 this morning.

A NEW SUPERINTENDENT

W. R. Patterson Arrived Here from New Mexico to Succeed Stone-Burner
W. R. Patterson, formerly with the Southern Pacific Railway in New Mexico, has arrived here and will succeed J. W. Stone-Burner as general superintendent of the Oklahoma, New Mexico & Pacific, which has a line from Ardmore to Ringling. It is stated that Mr. Stone-Burner will devote his time to the oil business in the Healdton field.

HERE MAY BE A CANDIDATE, WHO KNOWS?

INTIMATED BY CLOSE FRIEND THAT ROY SHORES HAS ASPIRATIONS FOR SEAT IN STATE LEGISLATURE.

Well, have you heard it?
If you have not, just keep your ear "attuned" and you will hear a noise like Roy Shores running for the legislature.

Now Roy, in his modesty, has not confided this to the press, but in a conversation with friends at the hotel last night, he intimated most strongly that he had felt a call to the legislative halls of the state, and it is generally understood that when one hears a "call," whether in religion or in politics, that the aforesaid party is not so very long in heeding it, as it leads directly away from the maddening heat of the fallow fields where the cornstalks waveth and where the cotton is in bloom.

Roy wouldn't make a bad legislator at all. He is well known and popular throughout this section, and, in fact, all over the state. He is a young man of exceptional business ability, and has stability of character enough to resist the wiles of the professional politician and habitual member, who usually makes headquarters in what is politically termed the great county of Lee Huckins, and try, sometimes successfully,—to mould the destiny of the state.

Roy Shores is well known in the insurance world, and has been identified with a prominent local agency for some time. He would fill the office acceptably to the constituency, and should he decide to enter the race, he would make it exceedingly interesting for any who might oppose him.

However, he has not announced yet.

MEXICAN ARMY NEAR DOUGLAS

SENATOR ASHURST RECEIVES A TELEGRAM TELLING OF PRESENCE OF MANY MEXICANS.

RAID IS NOW FEARED

Residents of Border Town Fear Raid From Mexicans — Mexican Officials Deny That Large Army is at Agua Prieta, or Near There.

Washington, March 24.—Although the American consuls in northern Mexico reported that they have found no massing of Carranza troops on the border, Senator Ashurst of Arizona received a telegram from constituents at Douglas saying that a Mexican general with three thousand Mexican cavalry has arrived at a point over the border, ten blocks south of the center of Douglas, and that seven thousand more Carrancistas came to a point six miles south of the border.

Douglas fears an attack, and is asking for aid.

Calles Denies Report.

Douglas, Ariz., March 24.—General Calles, the military governor of Sonora, again denied today the reports that large numbers of Mexican troops have reached Agua Prieta, opposite here from the south. An investigation revealed no increase in the number of Mexican troops there.

EXPLOSIONS IN MOVIE SHOWS.

Police Attribute Explosions to Rivalry of Operators' Unions.
Chicago, Ill., March 24.—Two bomb explosions damaged two south side motion picture theatres here today. The police attribute the explosions to rivalry of operators' unions.

WHITTINGTON HOTEL UNDER NEW MANAGER

CONTRACT CLOSED WHEREBY STRUCTURE NOW UNDER WAY WILL BE TAKEN OVER BY WELL KNOWN CATERER.

A contract has been closed between Captain W. F. Whittington and Earl D. Kesselring, proprietor of Earl's Cafe, on West Main street, whereby the latter will take charge of the new Whittington hotel now under course of construction, as soon as it is finished. Mr. Kesselring is a practical hotel man and caterer, and proposes to make the new Whittington second to no hotel in the state. The new hotel will be three stories in height, of seventy-five rooms, and fitted with every modern convenience. There will be hot and cold water in every room, one-half will have private baths, steam heated and equipped with elevator. Telephones will be in every room, and not a detail will be overlooked to make it every bit as good as the Lee Huckins in proportion to size. The plans make it possible to have every room an outside room. The ground floor will be utilized for the lobby, dining room and cafe. Sample rooms will also be available, and Mr. Kesselring states that he will leave nothing undone for the comfort and convenience of his guests.

The new hotel will be ready for the opening about the middle of July, if nothing prevents, and the new manager states that he is sure the public will be pleased with his efforts when they are permitted to inspect it.

Mr. Kesselring will also conduct his cafe on West Main street, as well as the Whittington.

Read the want ads.

FRENCH CANNONADING GERMAN POSITIONS IN MALANCOURT WOOD

LULL IN VERDUN FIGHTING CONTINUES, ALTHOUGH THE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY CONTINUES AS HERETOFORE.

French Shelling of German Positions in Malancourt Wood Believed to be Attempt to Prevent Germans from Debauching from this Cover and Making New Advances South—Only Intermittent Firing Now East of the Meuse—Fighting with Russians on Eastern Front Causes Verdun Battles to be of Secondary Importance Now to Berlin—Russians Attack in Thick Waves and Have Made Four Successive Attacks Near Postav on the Dvinsk Front Last Night and Today, but Berlin Claims that All Were Without Success—Berlin says Russian Losses in this Fighting Were Heavy—Two Additional Neutral Vessels Reported Sunk—One Norwegian Ship, and Other Danish Vessel.

CHANCELLOR GIDNEY WAS WELL PLEASED

GRAND OFFICER OF DOMAIN OF OKLAHOMA PAYS TRIBUTE TO OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF MYRTLE LODGE.

Grand Chancellor S. E. Gidney of the Knights of Pythias, was the guest of Myrtle Lodge last night, and during the course of his remarks, paid a high tribute to the officers and members for their activity and general all-around "pep" in doing the work. Mr. Gidney stated that he was surprised at what he saw and heard, and while the name of Myrtle Lodge is known throughout the state, he had no idea that it was doing the things attributed to it,—and a lot more. Chancellor Gidney, in his address to the members, recited some history of the order from its foundation, and quoted many instances where it had been a potent factor in times of dire distress. He urged every member to study the order and to always be active in advancing its welfare.

The musical feature, in the nature of the Saxophone Sextette, was the greatest surprise of all to him, and the boys lived up to the reputation they already have established as musicians of no mean ability. He urged that the musical organization be taken to the grand lodge at Tulsa in May, and was again surprised to learn that this had already been decided upon.

After the address of the grand chancellor, several short addresses were made by local and visiting Knights, served by the Pythian Sisters in the club room.

Individual members have donated funds to defray the expenses of the Sextette to Tulsa, and Myrtle lodge will be represented by at least fifty members when the grand lodge convenes.

ARMY INCREASE BILL GOES TO THE SENATE

HAY BILL, WHICH PASSED THE HOUSE LAST NIGHT, PROVIDES FOR REGULAR ARMY OF HUNDRED FORTY THOUSAND.

Washington, March 24.—The Hay army increase bill, providing for an increase in the regular army to 140,000 men, went to the senate today after passing the house last night with only two dissenting votes.

ANTARCTIC EXPLORER BACK

Sydney, Wash., March 24.—Sir Ernest Shackelford has returned from his Antarctic expedition, but the news of his achievement is withheld for the present.

Although the artillery keeps up its active work, the lull in the Verdun fighting continues today.

The French have been energetically cannonading the German positions in Malancourt Wood, attempting to prevent the Germans from a debauch from this cover and making new advances south.

Only intermittent firing is reported east of the Meuse.

The sinking of two additional neutral vessels, one a Norwegian steamer and the other a Danish bark, are reported today.

Claim Repulse of Russians

Berlin, March 24.—Attacking in thick waves and firing fifty thousand high calibre shells on the Germans on the eastern front, the Russians made four successive attacks near Postav on the Dvinsk front last night and this morning, but without success, according to an official statement.

As far as Berlin is concerned, these actions overshadowed the fighting at Verdun.

The first two waves of the Russian attack were mowed down before they reached the wire entanglements. The third attack pierced the German front for one hundred yards, but the assailants rejected counter attacks. At dawn the Russians made a fourth attack but it was smothered in the initial stages by the German artillery. Four Russian divisions are said to have participated in these movements.

JOPLIN WANTS PARIS CLUB.

R. M. Finlay of Denison Club Visits Paris to Investigate Conditions.

Joplin, the wet town of southwestern Missouri wants to break into the Western Association after being without professional ball for some time, and has made application for the Paris franchise, if it is decided to transfer the Paris club to some other city and has already wired President Hill asking for the vacancy.

R. M. Finlay of the Denison club has been sent to Paris by President Hill to investigate conditions at Paris and ascertain whether or not Paris people desire to retain their Western Association franchise.

Most of the Western Association club owners are said to favor Ardmore, if a change is made, on account of this city being more centrally located to the association's circuit than any of the other cities mentioned, as probable successors to Paris.

Let's put a stop to this peace talk. Charlie Chaplin says he intends to play Hamlet when the war ends.



ARDMORE, OKLA.
APRIL 6 to 12, INCLUSIVE